



Idaho Crop & Livestock Producer News

Cooperating with the Idaho State Department of Agriculture

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Dear Respondent:

This issue of the Idaho Crop and Livestock Producers' News covers the results of the December 2012 Bee and Honey Inquiry. Total Honey production, yield per colony and average price per pound are reported for Idaho and the U.S.

For more information contact us at nass-id@nass.usda.gov or at 1-800-691-9987. Thank you for reporting and your continued support.

Sincerely,

Ralph V. Matthews

*Vince Matthews
Director*

Idaho Honey Production Decreased 2 Percent

Idaho honey production in 2012 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 3.07 million pounds, a 2 percent decrease from 2011. Honey producing colonies are estimated at 96,000 colonies, up 9,000 colonies from last year. Yield per colony averaged 32 pounds, down 4 pounds from 2011. Producer honey stocks were 553,000 pounds on December 15, 2012, a decrease of 71 percent from the previous year. The average honey price per pound was 161.0 cents, down 17 cents from a year ago.

Nationally, Honey production in 2012 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 147 million pounds, down 1 percent from 2011. There were 2.62 million colonies producing honey in 2012, up 5 percent from 2011. Yield per colony averaged 56.1 pounds, down 6 percent from the 59.6 pounds in 2011.

Colonies which produced honey in more than one State were counted in each State where the honey was produced. Therefore, at the United States level yield per colony may be understated, but total production would not be impacted. Colonies were not included if honey was not harvested. Producer honey stocks were 32.9 million pounds on December 15, 2012, down 10 percent from a year earlier. Stocks held by producers exclude those held under the commodity loan program.

At the U.S. level, Honey prices increased to a record high during 2012 to 195.1 cents per pound, up 11 percent from 176.5 cents per pound in 2011. United States and State level prices reflect the portions of honey sold through cooperatives, private, and retail channels. Prices for each color class are derived by weighting the quantities sold for each marketing channel. Prices for the 2011 crop reflect honey sold in 2011 and 2012. Some 2011 crop honey was sold in 2012, which caused some revisions to the 2011 crop prices.

Honey: Price by Color Class, United States, 2011-2012

Color Class	Co-op and Private		Retail		All	
	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012
	<i>Cents Per Pound</i>		<i>Cents Per Pound</i>		<i>Cents Per Pound</i>	
Water White, Extra White, White	170.1	189.9	274.1	296.9	172.9	191.4
Extra Light Amber	164.4	189.6	307.1	293.5	171.1	194.3
Light Amber, Amber, Dark Amber	165.7	179.4	315.4	350.1	183.4	200.2
All Other Honey, Area Specialties	182.6	210.2	461.0	522.7	225.2	286.5
All Honey	167.7	187.8	314.7	340.5	176.5	195.1

Find agricultural statistics for your county, State, and the Nation at www.nass.usda.gov.

**Honey: Number of Colonies, Yield, Production, Stocks, Price,
and Value by State and United States, 2012**

State	Honey producing colonies ^{1/}	Yield per colony	Production	Stocks Dec 15 ^{2/}	Average price per pound ^{3/}	Value of production ^{4/}
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>		<i>Cents</i>	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>
Alabama	8	54	432	65	243	1,050
Arizona	22	46	1,012	253	170	1,720
Arkansas	26	63	1,638	197	184	3,014
California	340	35	11,900	3,213	193	22,967
Colorado	26	48	1,248	487	212	2,646
Florida	199	64	12,736	1,274	181	23,052
Georgia	62	51	3,162	190	189	5,976
Hawaii	10	75	750	263	319	2,393
Idaho	96	32	3,072	553	161	4,946
Illinois	7	61	427	145	340	1,452
Indiana	9	59	531	228	244	1,296
Iowa	38	61	2,318	1,229	211	4,891
Kansas	7	55	385	146	235	905
Kentucky	5	51	255	41	318	811
Louisiana	41	86	3,526	141	177	6,241
Maine	4	34	136	24	225	306
Michigan	76	57	4,332	1,386	203	8,794
Minnesota	130	67	8,710	1,655	188	16,375
Mississippi	19	118	2,242	67	163	3,654
Missouri	7	53	371	108	256	950
Montana	149	52	7,748	2,479	191	14,799
Nebraska	44	65	2,860	1,173	191	5,463
New Jersey	14	33	462	51	188	869
New Mexico	5	52	260	99	313	814
New York	52	51	2,652	1,008	228	6,047
North Carolina	13	39	507	106	369	1,871
North Dakota	495	69	34,155	6,148	189	64,553
Ohio	19	60	1,140	433	242	2,759
Oregon	62	32	1,984	873	211	4,186
Pennsylvania	17	60	1,020	286	262	2,672
South Dakota	270	63	17,010	3,742	194	32,999
Tennessee	7	61	427	68	285	1,217
Texas	95	52	4,940	741	200	9,880
Utah	26	38	988	217	185	1,828
Vermont	4	60	240	53	234	562
Virginia	4	41	164	23	385	631
Washington	64	41	2,624	1,050	235	6,166
West Virginia	7	48	336	111	280	941
Wisconsin	63	69	4,347	1,956	204	8,868
Wyoming	51	51	2,601	468	182	4,734
Other States ^{5/ 6/}	31	47	1,444	172	304	4,390
US ^{6/ 7/}	2,624	56	147,092	32,922	195	286,976

1/ Honey producing colonies are the maximum number of colonies from which honey was taken during the year. It is possible to take honey from colonies which did not survive the entire year. 2/ Stocks held by producers. 3/ Average price per pound based on expanded sales. 4/ Value of production is equal to production multiplied by average price per pound. 5/ Alaska, Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Hampshire, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, and South Carolina not published separately to avoid disclosing data for individual operations. 6/ Due to rounding, total colonies multiplied by total yield may not exactly equal production. 7/ United States value of production will not equal summation of States.

A THANK YOU TO ALL IDAHO FARM AND RANCH OPERATORS

Your cooperation in completing agricultural surveys from this office is greatly **APPRECIATED**. Accurate, useful estimates are vital in decision making. All estimates derived from these surveys, along with other pertinent agricultural data, are published in our regular series of releases. All NASS reports are available free of charge on the worldwide Internet. For access, connect to the Internet and go to the NASS Home Page at: www.nass.usda.gov. If you have any questions or require additional information, you may reach us toll free at 1-800-691-9987.